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NODE construction to begin next month

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Construction on the Niles Outdoor Dining Experience is set to begin Tuesday, Sept. 3.

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — Construction will soon begin on Niles’ planned public outdoor space in the heart of downtown.

Construction on the Niles Outdoor Dining Experience is set to begin Tuesday, Sept. 3. The project – expected to be completed by Nov. 22 barring unforeseen circumstances – calls for the permanent closure of Second Street between East Main and the north alley and for curbs to be installed that would run east-west at the north and south ends of The Forge. The existing roadway will be milled out and pulverized

to be used as a base before concrete is paved between the existing curb lines.

Features will include a fireplace, overhead lighting and a stage area for performances. The street would be designed as an inverted crown, allowing water to flow toward the center of the street and into a drain.

According to the Downtown Development Authority, Second Street will be closed from Main Street to the Second Street alley beginning Sept. 3. There will be some closure of the alley to both the north and south as necessary for equipment staging during the process, but no dates have been stated as of today. The construction site itself

will likely be fenced off, but the sidewalk will remain accessible to the businesses. The roadway will be passable for Apple Festival Parade participants on Saturday, Sept. 28 but the area surrounding the construction site will be closed to parade viewers.

The Niles City Council voted in April to move forward with plans to close off a section of North Second Street to create an outdoor dining and event area, a design that would scale back from the original design approved in September 2022 due to rising construction costs. The Second Street closure option had

See NODE, Page A4

Buchanan seeking applicants for commissioner vacancy

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — Buchanan city officials have posted the process they will follow in filling the vacancy left by Mayor Sean Denison’s resignation earlier this week.

City Clerk Kalla Langston said that the City Commission is now accepting applications for the remainder of Denison’s term. Whoever is appointed will serve the remainder of his commissioner term through December, 2026.

Denison resigned Monday after serving on the commission since 2018. As he has done for several months, he continued to speak out against what he called the “lies and rumors” posted about him on social media. He said he resigned to focus on his health and his family and to enjoy life.

His resignation ended the recall election set for November. People filed recall language against him for his actions in suspending then City Manager Benjamin Eldridge last November without commission action. The recall election was certified in May and former City Commissioner Scott King had filed to run against him this November.

Those interested in applying to fill the vacancy can complete the application form available at the Buchanan City Hall or online on the city’s website, www.cityofbuchanan.com. Applications should be returned by Friday, Aug. 30 at 4 p.m. Applicants must

be city residents, registered voters and 18 or older.

Langston said that the city commission is expected to formally accept Denison’s resignation at their Aug. 26 meeting. Denison’s resignation was effective immediately after Monday’s meeting and commissioners have 30 days to replace him.

She said if any of the candidates running for two open seats in November is appointed to the commission to fill the Denison vacancy and then wins one of the four-year terms, they would have to choose whether they want to stay with the two-year term or accept the four-year term.

The seats now held by Larry Money and Patrick Swem are up this November. Those running are Money, Swem, Lorlie Holmes, Tony Houser and Angela Lowery.

The application form asks seven background questions such as whether they are a city resident for two or more years, registered to vote, been convicted of a felony and are delinquent on property taxes or utility bills.

Applicants are then asked to say why they are interested in becoming a city commissioner, to list community service and boards they’ve served on, why their personality would make them a good fit to serve on the commission, qualities they possess that show they are capable of leading a team and their philosophy on the role of local government.



'THESE ARE MY PEOPLE'

Library hosts Edwardsburg native, children’s author for storytime event

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

EDWARDSBURG — As a retired teacher, Denise Hलगren is no stranger to reading books.

She estimates that she has read thousands of books to students during her 30-year teaching career. That being said, reading her own children’s book to friends and former co-workers and students in Edwardsburg was a new, refreshing experience.

The Edwardsburg Branch Library, 26745 Church St., Edwardsburg, welcomed Hलगren Monday for a special storytime and meet and greet event for her

book titled “The Crazy Cat Lady.” Written by Hलगren and illustrated by Bhagya Rathnaweera, the children’s book follows a teacher who retires from spending all day with children to spending all day with cats. The book can be purchased on Amazon.com.

“We are so excited to be able to have a local author that was a former resident and teacher here in the community,” said CDL Edwardsburg Branch Manager April Hughes. “It just brings community events like this alive and brings everybody together. It’s been such a wonderful morning with her reading and sharing her love of literature. Her visit with former students and families has

been such a wonderful community event and we’re so excited to be able to host events like this in our community.”

More than 100 community members – many of which former students and co-workers – attended the event. Hलगren had copies of her book for sale and signing.

“An unbelievable turnout today. I’ve had so many former students and co-workers visit today. It really melts my heart.”

Hलगren retired from EPS two years ago and currently lives in Maryland with her husband, who is in the military. As part of

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

The Edwardsburg Branch Library welcomed Denise Hलगren Monday for a special storytime and meet and greet event for her book titled “The Crazy Cat Lady.”

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Firehouse Subs and the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation recently donated \$38,700 to the Howard Township Fire Department.

Firehouse Subs donates \$38,700 to Howard Township Fire Department

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — A local business is doing its part to help first responders serve the community.

Firehouse Subs, 930 S 11th Street, Niles, and the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation recently donated \$38,700 to the Howard Township Fire Department. The donation allowed for the purchase of thirty Scott 4500 PSI Cylinders (Oxygen Tanks),

which provide breathing air for firefighters during a fire.

The Firehouse Subs Grant Foundation provides lifesaving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, and disaster relief for first responders and public safety organizations, as well as support for military veterans. Since inception, the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has

See SUBS, Page A4

OBITUARIES

Charles R. Gurney

Joan S. Rogge

Donald Makowski

Victoria Bedford

Michael John Schoff

David Steele

Buddy Lynn Stanley

Gloria Collins

Shirley Janssen

Timothy Weston

Karen Sue Kolloff Alexander

Danny Alvin Grady Sr.

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

“Adopt a pet. Raise your children with a pet. Seniors can find great companionship with a pet.”

A6

A2 Niles boys soccer wins

B1



FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email scott.novak@leaderpub.com

“The First Amendment is not for polite speech because there is no need to protect polite words. In recent years, employees have been fired for expressing non-threatening opinions. They lost their family income. Is it no longer allowed to voice an opinion? Why have we stopped honoring the First Amendment?”

“I am begging companies to bring back phone operators and receptionists. The frustration of talking to automated voices is terrible customer service. Not having a human answer a business call is creating stress that none of us need.”

“I’m fine with the “party street” in downtown Niles, but fix the building fronts. How do landlords get away with that? The charm can be there, but we need all hands on deck.”

“Please support the high school fall sports. It means so much to these kids to see fans in the stands.”

“Earn extra money and rake some leaves this fall. Lots of us people are happy to pay entrepreneurs who show a little ambition.”

“Frankly, enough with the politics already. Yes, we have idiots running the country and new ones wanting to run it further into the ground. We get it.”

“Thank God it looks like the 51 nightmare is coming to a close.... so many businesses really had a rough time with this road construction.”

“A US President gives a speech mentioning he looks more attractive than his female opponent. This is why he is not very presidential. This is complete nonsense and an embarrassment to every American.”

“Adopt a pet. Raise your children with a pet. Seniors can find great companionship with a pet.”

“Cannabis may not be the answer for all of your health problems, but it sure has helped me with my old bones and I think alternatives to harsh chemicals may be the answer for many of us older folks struggling just to get out of the recliner.”

WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Partly Cloudy 83° 68°	Partly Cloudy 87° 69°	Partly Cloudy 92° 72°	Mostly Sunny 89° 58°	Mostly Sunny 79° 60°	30% Chance of Rain 84° 62°

KEEPING MICHIANA BUZZING

Local beekeepers club celebrates five years

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — A local club is celebrating five years of educating southwest Michigan about nature’s most famous pollinator.

Established in 2019 by Theodore Schrader and Brad Cloutier, the Berrien/Cass Beekeepers Club is a nonprofit that merges hobby beekeepers and commercial beekeepers alike with a commitment to education as a member of the Michigan Beekeepers Association. The club is dedicated to promoting responsible beekeeping practices, fostering a supportive community of bee enthusiasts and sharing knowledge about honeybees and the vital role they play in the ecosystem.

“We have so much interest and we’re so excited because more members means more mentors for new members,” said club treasurer Maya Miller, who houses the club’s apiary on her farm, Honey Hill Farms in Dowagiac. “We want to be able to get to the next level where we have more advanced classes and can have honey extracting workshops and things like that. Some people are really into it for bee genetics, some people are really into it for the environment. There’s all these different niches and the more we grow, the more we can explore those things.”

The club meets from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month at Southwestern Michigan College’s O’Leary building (room 301) to host presentations and guest speakers to discuss bee related topics and provide education.

“There are topics like mite control, getting your hives ready for winter, equipment and treatment options, native plants that are best to put in your yard,” she said.

The club also offers services for swarms of honeybees that are out in the open. In addition,

the club also hosts apiary days – typically two per month – that allow members to take a more hands-on approach to beekeeping. Monthly club meetings and apiary days are open to the public.

“We usually have about 30 people here on a Saturday and it’s getting into the hives. It’s wearing suits, learning how to use a smoker, how to adjust your frames, all those things.”

Membership dues are \$25 for an individual or \$40 per household. Students enrolled in minimal credit hours pay no dues. According to Miller, the club currently has 28 members as interest continues to grow.

“We’ve had a number of people that have found us who wanted to bring their kids for their interest and then the parents get into it,” Miller said. “Oh yeah. “Most beekeepers are older, so we want kids to be involved and there’s scholarships available now for young beekeepers that will help you get completely established. We need more young beekeepers.”

Honey bees, both wild and domestic, play a role in the world’s food supply. According to greenpeace.org, bees pollinate about 70 out of the top 100 human food crops which supply about 90 percent of the world’s nutrition.

“It really is essential to all of our food,” Miller said. “Having community beekeepers allows organizations to gather and report data. We have a pollen collector that’s working with a couple of members in the group that are looking at the best plants to plant for this region. In this farming community, pollinators are essential.”

Miller encourages anyone interested in learning more about the club to explore the club’s website at bcbeekeepers.org.

“Everybody needs community and we are a community that is incredibly inclusive,” she said. “We’re all about creating a better environment for ourselves and for the world.”



SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
ABOVE: Berrien/Cass Beekeepers Club apiary manager Josh Pears examines the apiary at Honey Hill Farms.
BELOW: The Berrien/Cass Beekeepers Club conducts an apiary day at Honey Hill Farms in Dowagiac.



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Niles library, history center to host Frederick Douglass exhibit

COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — The Friends of the Niles District Library and History Center are bringing a traveling exhibit to town: Frederick Douglass: Advocate for Equality.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History developed this traveling exhibit, which will be on view at the Niles District Library from Monday, Sept. 9 to Friday, Oct. 4, 2024. The exhibit consists of six panels featuring documents from the Gilder Lehrman collection.

Connections with Niles artist and activist, Lottie Wilson, will also be explored. An Educational Guide for schools and homeschool groups and other resources are also available.

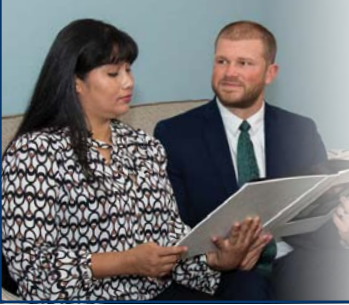
Frederick Douglass: Advocate for Equality features an exploration of the full trajectory of Douglass's epic life from 1818 to 1895. Viewers will learn about Douglass's escape from slavery, his work as an abolitionist, and his tireless fight for the equality of all individuals. His legacy inspired civil rights leaders

though the Jim Crow era and continues to do so today. This exhibition explores Douglass's life and impact life through his own words and in photographs and documents from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, one of the most significant archives of American history.

Niles artist Lottie Wilson once painted portraits of both Frederick Douglass and his first wife, Anna Murray Douglass. Though these paintings are now lost, the library does own one of Wilson's paintings depicting a meeting between

abolitionist Sojourner Truth and President Abraham Lincoln. Wilson was active in national suffrage organizations and fought for the same causes as Douglass. At 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 9, Niles History Center Director Christina Arseneau will present a program, Activism and Art, which explores the life of Lottie Wilson and the writings of Frederick Douglass, who published the anti-slavery newspaper, The North Star. The program will be presented as part of the Friends' annual meeting.

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Brandywine board members continue debate on policy changes

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — Brandywine School Board members appear to agree on the need to protect students in the light of new federal regulations, but they have yet to settle on how they should go about doing it.

Monday's meeting was the second in a row to focus primarily on whether to approve a proposed new Title IX policy. It was also the second meeting in a row with no resolution of the matter. Board members have now scheduled a meeting for Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. to continue the discussion with the goal of taking a vote at their Sept. 16 meeting.

Board President Elaine McKee announced Monday that a vote taken Aug. 5 to defeat the proposed policy was void as the number of board members voting to reject the policy was not a majority of the full board as two members were absent. "So we're back to square one," she said.

That policy recognized the changes in federal Title IX regulations that went into effect Aug. 1. The new rule expands the 1972 federal law barring sex discrimination in education to add protections for LGBTQ+ students. McKee and two other board members want to recognize the new law but also add protections for female students.

New board member John Jarpe—who was appointed in late July to fill a vacancy suggested a different approach. Rather than changing and adding language to the proposed new Title IX policy, he said the board should address their concerns by changing the sexual harassment policy and adding language to the student handbook instead.

"Some of those things may fall in line under that policy more than the Title IX policy," he said. "Some of the deep concerns you had could fall under that purview."

While some board members appeared ready to go that route, passing the Title IX policy and adding to the

sexual harassment policy or to student handbooks, Board Vice-President Thomas Payne said he was not in favor of that and continued to push for making changes to the Title IX policy itself.

"It's important for us to consider mitigating any safety and privacy concerns any student may potentially have," he said. "This has been going on across the nation for some time and we can't say that at some point it might not reach Brandywine ... It's good to be proactive to come with rules and language."

There was some debate as to whether the district could be in danger of losing federal funding if it doesn't adopt the Title IX policy. Superintendent Travis Walker said it's not a matter of possibly losing federal funding but opening the district up to litigation if there is a Title IX or civil rights complaint and the district doesn't have a policy in place.

Walker also pointed out that in his reading of the proposed new policy, it deals primarily with administrative guidance and timelines, such as how the district would respond to complaints. "The policy doesn't say you have to allow a male into a female sport ... it talks about how you respond to Title IX and sexual harassment complaints," he said.

Payne disagreed. "The policy says how we should handle incidents but we need to put parameters in the policy to mitigate such instances so we don't have a Title IX complaint," he said. "I'm absolutely concerned about the safety and privacy of all students."

Board members disagreed some on how serious the problem is. Board member Brian Burge said he thought the issue was being blown out of proportion. He said that coaches and parents have handled situations for years where girls play boys support and they had safe spaces to change and get ready.

Payne and Michelanne McCombs disagreed. They said the world is different now and not what anyone would have imagined 20 or 30 years ago. They said that accommodating a girl wanting to play boys' sports isn't the same as deal-

ing with someone identifying as the other sex.

"Here's the bottom line, we pass this policy and the law says that a biological male has the right to go into female spaces and a biological female has the right to go into male spaces," Payne said. "We have a responsibility to protect everyone in those spaces. If we pass the policy as is, I don't think we're doing our job."

A number of suggestions were discussed to make spaces safer. They included having private dressing rooms, not allowing students to walk around naked in locker rooms, putting locks and doors on restrooms and shower stalls and allowing students to use a staff bathroom with a locked door.

The idea of having locks and doors in restrooms was questioned by teacher Debbie Carew during public comments. She said she could see problems with having locks and doors, noting that as a teacher she wants to be able to look under the stalls to see if two people are in a stall.

"Yes, we want to keep everyone safe but we also want to keep everyone safe when they're intending bad things or naughty things behind a locked door," she said. "Having too many locked spaces will keep staff from intervening when we have to."

In action at Monday's meeting, the board approved new three year contracts with the district's paraprofessionals, bus drivers and food service workers. Walker said the contracts run through June, 2027. Employees will not get a pay raise this year but it will be looked at again for next year.

In other action, Cindy Boughton was hired as a new fifth grade teacher and Ellen Adams and Lea Germann were named as the district's representatives to the Berrien RESA Parent Advisory Committee.

Walker reported that new teachers reported to the district on Monday with the rest of the staff reporting Tuesday. School starts next Monday.



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Niles man gets prison time for assaulting girlfriend

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — A Niles man who severely beat his girlfriend last December was sentenced to prison Monday in Berrien County Trial Court at the Niles courthouse.

Brandon Patterson, 44, of Niles, pleaded guilty to two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and was sentenced to two concurrent terms of 38 months to five years in prison. He has credit for 60 days already served and must pay \$316 in fines and costs.

He was also sentenced to time served for two contempt of court charges from trying to contact the victim when ordered not to.

The incident occurred Dec. 4, 2023 at a residence in Niles. Patterson previously served a prison term in Tennessee for an assault on another victim there in the past.

The victim spoke before

sentencing and said that the incident had badly affected her and her family. She said that she had been in a relationship with Patterson since September, 2023 and that the abuse had gone from emotional to mental to physical.

"I was in a high level of stress with my father in hospice," she said Monday in court. "I had been taking care of him for nine years and was also working and being a mom to my son. I felt I had found comfort with him and his assault complicated my grief. I felt like I was going to die from the actions of a person I thought loved me."

"I am a shell of my former self," she added. "I'm not sure if I will ever feel safe and secure again. I feel no hope for my future any longer. I thought I was going to die. I had to convince him I wouldn't go to the police to escape. He said he would kill me and police officers I told what he did."

The woman said she had bruises and contusions from her head to her feet, was kicked in the face and had two bald spots where Patterson pulled out her hair.

"I feel broken inside," she said. "I was unable to sleep at night, I was convinced he would kill me. My life has changed forever. I hope one day he will feel the suffering I feel. I hope he suffers every day because I will for the rest of my life."

Patterson apologized to the victim and her family. He said he had been doing good after getting out of prison in 2015 for another assault. "I bought a small farm in Tennessee," he said. "I would like to get back to my life there as soon as possible."

Patterson's attorney, Ross Holec, said Patterson had mended his relationship with the earlier victim and described his client as a person who "made a very bad choice." "He admits he has a problem dealing with his temper," he said.

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith said that while she gave Patterson some credit for entering and completing an anger management program, she was bothered by the fact that he violated his bond conditions twice by having contact with the victim.

"I appreciate you took the course but I can't believe it

See PRISON, Page A4

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Opinion

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Voting for Trump is a step in the wrong direction

As a Native American, I must emphasize the critical importance of protecting our sovereignty, rights, and well-being. Voting for Donald Trump is a step in the wrong direction for our communities. His administration consistently undermined Indigenous sovereignty by promoting policies that threatened our lands, resources, and sacred sites. From attempts to reduce the size of national monuments that protect our ancestral lands to fast-tracking pipelines like Keystone XL and Dakota Access, Trump demonstrated a blatant disregard for Native American rights and environmental protections.

Moreover, Trump's administration eroded the trust relationship between Native nations and the federal government, neglecting treaty obligations and ignoring our voices in crucial decision-making processes. Voting for Trump means endorsing policies that harm our communities and weaken our sovereignty.

Our ancestors fought tirelessly to protect our lands and rights, and we owe it to them and future generations to stand strong against any force that seeks to diminish our sovereignty. We must vote for leaders, such as Kamala Harris, who will honor our treaties and work collaboratively with Native nations to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future for all Indigenous people.

Migwetth (thank you),
Jason Gatties
Pokagon Band of
Potawatomi Indians
Dowagiac, MI

NEWS

Secretary Miguel Cardona Announces 2024 Back to School Bus Tour

COMMUNITY REPORT

WASHINGTON D.C. — On Tuesday, Sept. 3, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona will launch the 2024 Back to School Bus Tour from Sept. 3 to Sept. 6. The week-long, multi-state road trip will showcase the many ways schools, families, and communities are doubling down on accelerating student achievement and raising the bar in public education with investments and other support from the Biden-Harris Administration.

The Back to School Bus Tour will feature stops in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. This year's theme, "Fighting for Public Education," highlights how school communities are using the Biden-Harris administration's historic investments in public education to implement evidence-based and promising and innovative strategies and accelerate academic success, to support students of all ages and backgrounds. The 2024 bus tour will celebrate public education as the American system that opened the door for so many of our nation's success stories: from astronauts to astrophysicists, writers to engineers, musicians to mathematicians, innovative entrepreneurs in the private sector to great leaders in the public sector.

"This year's Back to School Bus Tour will remind the American people why the Biden-Harris Administration has unapologetically fought for public education, the foundation of opportunity in this country, and the contrast between our efforts and those who wish to destroy public education" said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "I cannot wait to hit the road and meet with students, parents, educators, and school leaders who are using the Biden-Harris Administration's historic investments in public education to Raise the Bar for students at every stage of their academic journeys. I'm looking forward to lifting up what's working in public education and celebrating the exciting work taking place in our schools and communities to ensure that all students, no matter their race, place, or background, have opportunities to succeed and contribute to our country."

On Sept. 5, Secretary Cardona will be in Michigan where he will hear from borrowers in Grand Rapids who benefited from debt relief through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, highlight the U.S. Department of Education's (Department) efforts to support high-quality teacher recruitment and retention programs while in Lansing, and amplify the Department's role in supporting public schools on the frontlines of the youth mental health crisis while in Detroit. He will be joined by National Education Association Becky Pringle.

Throughout the week, Secretary Cardona, Deputy Secretary Cindy Marten, and Under Secretary James Kvaal will join national, state, and local education leaders to speak with students, parents, and educators at events that celebrate the back-to-school season and underscore the Administration's commitment to helping students and communities recover from the impacts of the pandemic by improving academic achievement and succeed from cradle to college and career.

PRISON

Continued from page A3

had much impact on you if you walk out of court and have no remorse," she said. "You walked out of court and smiled at her, knowing it would have a horrible effect on her. There's no reason to believe your anger management course had any impact on you if you couldn't control your behavior in front of a judge."

"You are a danger to any person you come in contact with in a relationship," she added. "This was a short relationship and you reached this level of violence. I don't believe you lashed out and hit her in the heat of passion, you made the conscious choice to continue to beat her as she lay bleeding in a bathtub. Instead of being remorseful, you threatened her."

Judge Smith said her only recourse was to lock him for the maximum length of time she could.

In other sentencings:

- Bobby Armstrong, Jr., 35, homeless, pleaded guilty to attempted assault with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to 150 days in jail with credit for 89 days served and \$258 in fines and costs. The incident occurred July 6, 2021 in Bertrand Township.
- Tyler Bybee, 31, of Buchanan, pleaded guilty to unlawful use of a motor vehicle and operating with a high blood alcohol level and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for eight days served, 90 days tether and \$1,843 in fines and costs. The incident occurred May 21 in Buchanan.
- Rayshawn Holloway, 40, of South Bend, pleaded guilty to attempted resisting and obstructing police and second offense drunk driving and was sentenced to 18 months probation, credit for 110 days served and \$2,076.87 in fines and costs. The incident occurred Jan. 6 in Niles.
- Michael Oliva, 57, of Mishawaka, pleaded guilty to third degree home invasion and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with credit for two days served and \$658 in fines and costs. The incident occurred June 2 in Niles Township.
- Malik Rush, 25, of Gary, Ind., pleaded guilty to possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle and was sentenced to 10 days in jail with credit for two days served and \$258 in fines and costs. The incident occurred May 20 in Niles.



Armstrong



Bybee



Holloway



Oliva

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Mucca**, a three-year-old cat from Animal Aid. Volunteers said Mucca is a house cat who loves to cuddle up on a couch. She is spayed and current on shots. For more information, call (269) 934-7729 for a special meet and greet.



AUTHOR

Continued from page A1

her storytime event, Halgren shared facts about cats to children in attendance.

"Today, I got to be a teacher again," she said. "It felt good to be in

my natural element again. These are all my people. These are my friends, these are my former students, these are my people. They all came back to see me so it's very heartwarming. It's very touching."

Halgren did not set out to become an author. After retiring from teaching, she volunteered at her local food pantry and in the local schools but realized that she missed the in-

teraction with children. She said her daughter jokes that her book is "almost an autobiography about me."

"It was kind of therapy for me," Halgren said.

Halgren is also working on two other books – "Kara Creek Ranch: A Wild West Alphabet Adventure" and "Kayla's Story: Foster Care to Adoption." She said she plans to write a series of Crazy Cat Lady books,

with the next installment titled "The Crazy Cat Lady Takes a Vacation." Halgren encourages children to send her story ideas of what to write about next. Ideas for the Crazy Cat Lady's next adventures can be submitted to crazycatladybooks@gmail.com.

"I want children to help me with these books," she said. "If they have ideas, I want them to use their imag-

inations; I want them to give me ideas. If they want me to use their names or ideas in my stories, I will do that because I want kids to get off of their tablets, off of their phones, off the technology and start laying outside in the grass, looking up at the clouds, looking up at the trees and start using their imaginations and going into the libraries and start reading more books."

NODE

Continued from page A1

the lowest price tag of the three new options considered, with the other two keeping the street open.

Council voted in July to approve up to \$305,642 in American Rescue Plan Act Funds to match the Downtown Development Authority/Revitalization and Placemaking grant for the construction of the NODE.

The DDA will have bi-weekly, in-person updates with the construction team and weekly updates from Wightman that will be shared with businesses and the public.

SUBS

Continued from page A1

awarded more than \$86 million to hometown heroes in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Support for Canadian first respond-

ers is provided through the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada.

According to a press release, the HTFD's previous cylinders reached their end of life – 15 years – and the township would have had to pay for new oxygen tanks next year. The donations provided by the Firehouse Subs Grant Foundation essentially saved the township \$38,700.

Niles Daily Star

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COMICS&PUZZLES

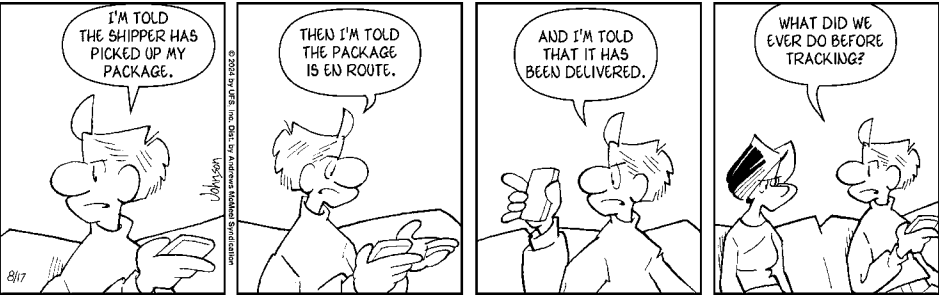
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ALLEY OOP



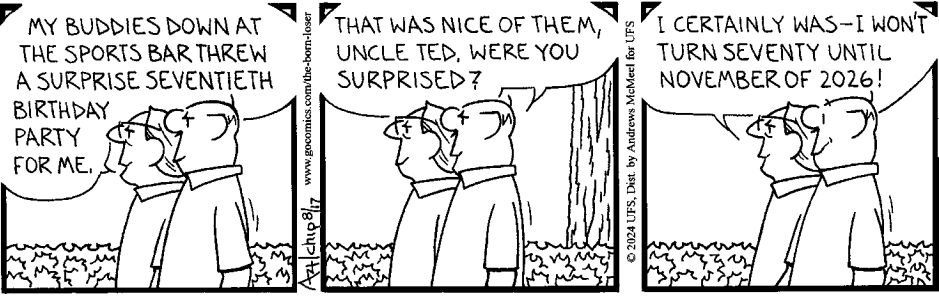
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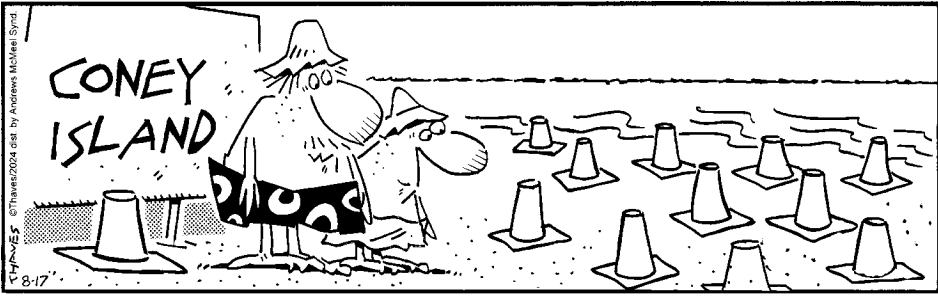
BIG NATE



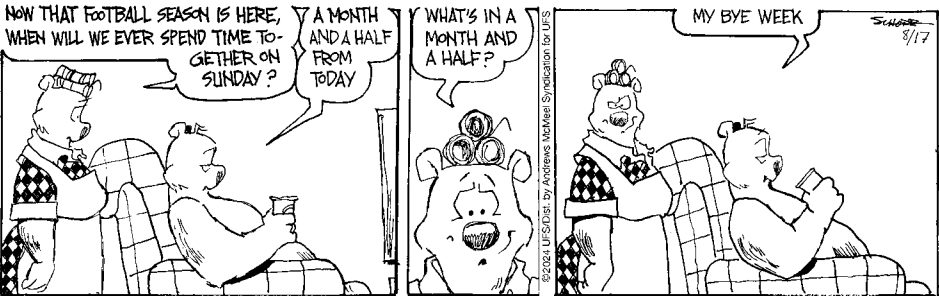
BORN LOSER



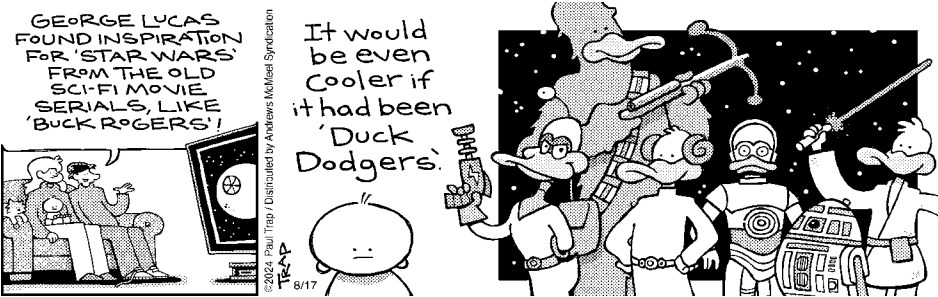
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SODOKU PUZZLE

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

DIFFICULTY RATING: 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

3				7	8		6
	1		2		3		
			8		1		
			2	9		8	
2		7			9		3
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MODERATELY CONFUSED



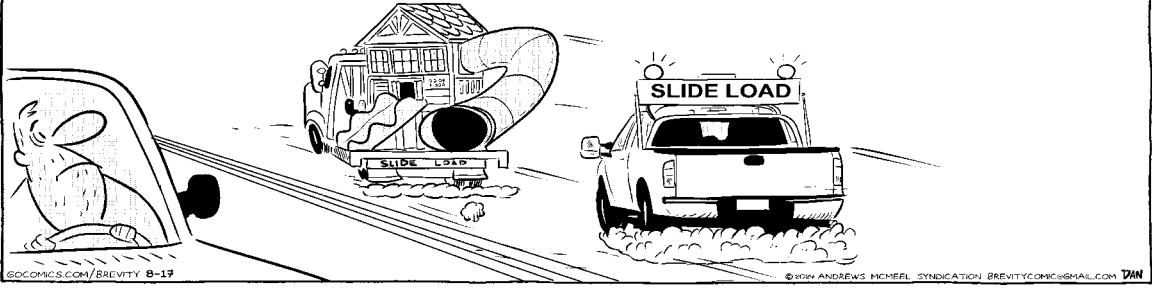
REALITY CHECK



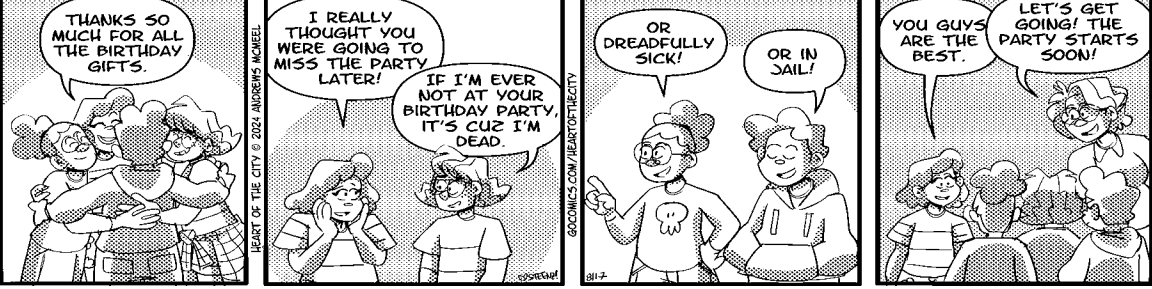
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS	DOWN
1 "— Maria"	1 From the top
4 Walk with difficulty	2 Essential
8 Overturn	3 For snobs only
12 Veto	4 Showed the way
13 Arab ruler	5 False (abbr.)
14 Unseen emanation	6 Actress — Scervino
15 Much-used abbr.	
16 Awful	
17 "Exodus" author	
18 Poet — Whitman	
20 Without social grace	
22 Body organ	
24 Empty land	
25 Animal enclosure	
26 Bear hair	
27 Plant fluid	
30 Larter or Landry	
32 Not spicy	
34 Old French money	
35 Actress — Tyler	
36 Submissive	
38 "Little Women" name	
39 Professional charge	
40 Simian	
41 — tide	
43 — Magnon	
44 Troubles	
46 Tall monoliths	
51 Departure area	
53 Italia's capital	
54 Makes lace	
56 — King Cole	
57 Goddess of discord	
58 Margarine	
59 AFL —	
60 Acquires	
61 Agts.	
62 White-tailed eagle	
7 Rule out	
8 Blame	
9 Worm on a hook	
10 Eye part	
11 Go by	
19 Explosive stuff	
21 Rocky hill	
23 Workout venue	
26 Run away	
27 Likeness	
28 "— Ventura: Pet Detective"	
29 Small dog	
30 TV alien from Melmac	
31 Fib	
33 Identity thief	
37 New Zealand parrot	
40 "Exodus" hero	
42 Popular	
43 Caste	
45 Flight component	
46 State near Wash.	
47 Caliber	
48 Send forth	
49 Hardy cabbage	
50 Dance move	
52 College in England	
55 "Mayday!"	

BREVITY



HEART OF THE CITY



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
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46	47	48			49	50		51		52
53				54		55		56		
57				58				59		
60				61				62		

DEATH NOTICES

Charles R. Gurney, 83, of Cassopolis, died Thursday, August 15, 2024. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis.

Joan S. Rogge, 77, of Kalamazoo, died Wednesday, August 14, 2024. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis

Donald Makowski, 77, of Niles, passed away at home on Friday, August 16, 2024. Arrangements are pending and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles. www.BrownFuneralHome-Niles.com.

Victoria Bedford, 35, of South Bend, passed away Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Arrangements

are pending and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, of Niles. www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

Michael John Schoff, 48, passed away on Sunday, August 18, 2024, in Niles, Michigan. Arrangments have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

David Steele, 93, of Dowagiac, died Wednesday, August 14, 2024. Arrangements are being made by Clark Chapel - Starks Family Funeral Homes, of Dowagiac. Services at 2:00pm on Saturday, Aug 24, at Apostolic Lighthouse Church, 30402 M-62, Dowagiac, with visitation from 11am-2pm. For a complete obituary visit www.clarkch.com.

OBITUARIES



Buddy Lynn Stanley
November 29, 1933 - August 8, 2024

Buddy Lynn Stanley, a man of dedicated service and unwavering reliability, went to his heavenly home with his Lord and Savior on August 8, 2024. Born on November 29, 1933, in Marion, Illinois, Buddy firmly established his roots in Niles, Michigan, where he lived a full and rich life.

Buddy was a loving husband to Darlene Stanley, his wife of 70 years. Their timeless bond was a testament to his affectionate and supportive nature. Buddy was not just a successful entrepreneur but a reliable pillar of strength to his family. After retiring from the Bayer Company, he owned and operated Stanley Appliance Repair for 50 years, a testament to his dedication and industrious spirit. His resilience and determination were mirrored in his family, which includes his children, John (Vicky) Stanley, Debra

Williams, and Colleen (Norm) Coshow; 20 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Bertha Stanley, his children Victor Stanley and Pam Stanley, and his siblings, Troy Stanley, Wayne Winchester, Juanita Moore, Lloyd Stanley, John Jr., Kenneth Stanley, Maxine Moore, Shirlene Penhale, Glenna Powell, Joe Stanley, and Val Jean Stanley.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was an avid bowler, who bowled for many years at numerous bowling alleys, and even scored a 300. Buddy loved watching Notre Dame Football and Basketball, as well as the Chicago Cubs.

Buddy's life was a clear reflection of his name - always there for his loved ones. His legacy will continue to inspire everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. A visitation and memorial service will be held in his honor on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at Bertrand Bible Church, 1008 Ontario Road, Niles, Michigan. The visitation will begin at 11:00 am EDT, followed by the memorial service at 1:00 pm EDT. Burial will be held at a later date in Bertrand Bible Church Cemetery in Niles, Michigan.

To honor Buddy Stanley's memory, we invite you to share your cherished memories, stories, and photos on his memorial page. It is through these shared experiences that his spirit will continue to live on, touching the hearts of all who knew him.



Mary Catholic Church until the 8th grade and graduated from Dowagiac High School. She went on to marry the love of her life, John Grant "Lonnie" Collins on April 27, 1963, at Holy Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, where she was a lifelong member and devout Catholic.

Glo was a beautiful and classy lady, always meticulous with her appearance. She loved to wear stylish clothes, have her hair done and nails painted. She worked as a pharmacy technician and supported her family as a homemaker for many years. She was the true backbone to her family—her love so genuine. She spent much of her time with close and extended family and was always there to care for anyone that needed help. From her large home cooked meals to her immaculately clean house, she created the warmth and comfort of a true home. You never walked in or out without a very special hug. Holidays were an especially cherished time for her children and grandchildren, who affectionately referred to her as Mumsy.

Glo always kept herself busy and found solace in simple things. She enjoyed nature and relishing in the peace of the wind and rain, often sharing these special moments of serenity with her family. She loved hummingbirds and had several feeders close by to watch them. She loved to read, take trips to the casino, and watch her favorite television shows including "I Love Lucy," murder shows and Notre Dame Football. She cherished

vacations spent with family. She loved visiting Houghton Lake, trips with her sisters to Las Vegas, and trips to Cedar Point, even if she did not ride roller coasters. What mattered most was that she was with the ones she loved.

Glo was preceded in death by her parents; husband, John Grant Collins; and siblings, Joyce Pond, Lonny DeGraff, and Linda Gaideski.

She is survived by her children: Kelly (Norman) McCoy of Mancelona; Kevin (Lori) Collins of Dowagiac; Chris (Toni) Collins of Dowagiac; Shannon (Brent) Hatch of Dowagiac; and Jill (David) Carpenter of Kalamazoo; fourteen grandchildren: Joshua (Melanie) McCoy, Sara McCoy, Kelsey (Mark) Alexander, Matthew Collins, Jeremy Collins, Casey (Zach Nawrot) Collins, Megan Collins, Miranda (Mark Baird) Collins, Zachary Hatch, Grant (Morgan) Hatch, Rachel Hatch, Landon Carpenter, Adrienne Carpenter, and Nolan Carpenter; nine great-grandchildren: Collin, Clayton, Aubree, Bentley, Holden, Brian, Adrian, Cameron, and Roman; brother, Larry (Susan) DeGraff; sister, Judy Torbet; numerous nieces and nephews; and her beloved canine companion, Lucy.

Memorial Mass will be Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 1:00pm at Holy Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, 210 N Front St, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047 with Father Arul Lazar, Celebrant. Friends may visit with family from 12:00pm until the time of the service. A time for fellowship and light refreshments will follow. Private interment will take place in Riverside Cemetery, where she will be laid to rest with her late husband.

Donations in Glo's memory may be made to a charity of one's choosing.

To share a memory or leave a condolence for the family visit <https://www.langelands.com>.

See OBITUARIES, Page A7

Gloria Collins
August 12, 1943 - August 15, 2024

Gloria Jean "Glo" Collins, age 81, of Dowagiac died peacefully in her sleep on Thursday, August 15, 2024. She was born August 12, 1943, in Dowagiac, Michigan to the late Clifford Aloysius and Marvel Irene (Kidman) DeGraff.

Glo attended the parochial school at Holy Maternity of

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CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

A	V	E	L	I	M	P	F	L	I	P
N	I	X	E	M	I	R	A	U	R	A
E	T	C	D	I	R	E	U	R	I	S
W	A	L	T	A	C	T	L	E	S	S
L	U	N	G	F	L	O	T			
S	T	Y	F	U	R	S	A	P		
A	L	I	M	I	L	D	E	C	U	
L	I	V	M	E	E	K	M	E	G	
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E	R	I	S	O	L	E	O	C	I	O
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SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

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9	6	5	3	8	4	1	7	2
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2	5	7	6	4	8	9	1	3
8	9	1	7	5	3	2	6	4
1	2	6	9	7	5	4	3	8
4	7	9	8	3	2	6	5	1
5	8	3	4	6	1	7	2	9

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OBITUARIES

Continued from page A6



Shirley Janssen
October 13, 1927 - August 17, 2024

Shirley J. Janssen passed away on August 17, 2024, surrounded by the warmth of her family in her beloved home in Dowagiac. Born on October 3, 1927, Shirley's life was a tapestry of devotion to her family and the simple joys that life offers.

A homemaker and the heart of her family, Shirley dedicated her life to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was a cherished mother to four sons, William "Bill" (Vickie) Janssen of Decatur, Richard "Rick" (Brenda) Janssen of Dowagiac, David (Toni) Janssen of Dowagiac, and Steven (Alice) Janssen of Sodus. She was also a loving mother to her three daughters, Sandy (Chuck) Fancher, Diane (Bill) Visel, and Judy (Fred) Bournay, all of Dowagiac. Her legacy further blooms in the lives of her thirty-one grandchildren, sixty great-grandchildren and twenty-six great-great grandchildren, all of whom she adored. Shirley's life was also enriched by her very special sister, Sharon Kurdelmeyer of Dowagiac, and many nieces and nephews who will fondly remember her cooking.

Shirley now joins in eternal rest her parents, Floyd Tinkey and Waneta (Brown) Tinkey-Carman, stepfather, Milan

Carman, her husband, John Janssen, whom she married on June 1, 1946, her sons Charles and John Janssen, her sister, Betty Tinkey, brothers, Bill Tinkey and Robert Tinkey, along with a great-granddaughter, Erin Flory, who preceded her in death.

She was a member of the Holy Maternity of Mary Catholic Church in Dowagiac, Michigan.

Shirley's interests painted the picture of a woman who found joy and contentment in the simple pleasures of life. She was an excellent cook and baker, often found in the kitchen preparing meals that would bring the entire family together. A voracious reader, she also enjoyed the challenge of crossword puzzles, keeping her engaged. Shopping was another delight for Shirley, though her greatest pleasure was always found in the company of her family.

Condolences and memories may be shared with her family at www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com.

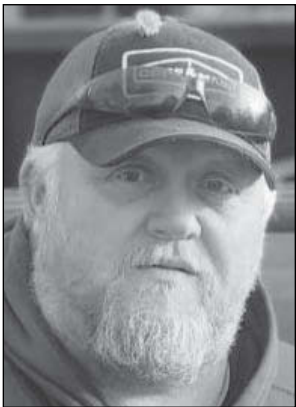
A Memorial Mass will be held on Monday, August 26, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Maternity of Mary Catholic Church in Dowagiac, Michigan. May she rest in peace and her memory be treasured forever.

Timothy Weston
January 15, 1977 - August 18, 2024

Timothy "TJ" James Weston, 47, of Marcellus, died August 18, 2024.

His life began January 15, 1977 in Kalamazoo the third of three born to Larry and Patty Davis.

TJ played football for Marcellus High School graduating in 1995. In his senior year he went with his team to the playoffs. He used this experience to coach rocket football. TJ enjoyed playing and



watching softball, baseball, and football, especially Lions, Tigers, and the Wolverines. TJ had a class A CDL for truck driving and work. He worked for the village of Marcellus as the DPW Superintendent. TJ Raised cattle and pigs and was a jack of all trades. He loved hunting, fishing, and shooting. He was successful in everything he did. TJ could be heard listening to many genres of music; classic rock, hard rock, contemporary rock even hip hop and country.

Some of his children's best memories were from watching The Walking Dead with his kids. TJ enjoyed traveling and spending time with his family. He always tried to find a way to connect with everyone. TJ was easy going, non-judgmental and loved selflessly both family and friends. He had contagious laughter and was constantly telling dad jokes. He tried to lift everyone up, giving his time and sharing his humor. He was the dad that was needed for anyone who needed one, each one of his children had a unique relationship with him.

TJ was able to be whomever he needed to be for each person he spent time with. TJ would sacrificially do anything for his friends and family. He was the greatest dad, brother, or son anyone could ask for.

TJ will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by three sons, Donaven (Morgan) Norman of Brethren, Ashton (Jenna Wells) Weston of Marcellus, Brayden Weston of Marcellus; two grandchildren, Brinnley and Emmett Norman; one daughter, Emma Hackenberg of Lawton; two

sisters, Stacey (Ryan) Roberts of North Carolina, Brandi Davis of Marcellus; grandmother, Arlene Weston; six nieces, La'riah, La'bria, Cathrine, Mary, Britanni; four nephews, DJ, Aiden, Nicholas, Bill; a special Aunt Debbie (Bob) Morimore; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Russell Weston, Sherman Davis; grandmother, Mary Davis; his uncle, Terry Davis and his aunt, Ann Davis.

A celebration of TJ's life will be held Sunday, September 1, 2024 1:00 p.m. in The Hudson Memorial Building, 208 West Main Street, Marcellus.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Karen Sue Kolloff Alexander
August 12, 1944 - August 4, 2024

Karen Sue Kolloff Alexander was born August 12, 1944 and died August 4, 2024. Karen was born in Chicago, IL to Henry Mark and Yolanda Sue Kolloff. She graduated from Niles High School in 1962 and attended Lake Michigan College. Karen married Jack Alexander and lived in Dowagiac for years. She worked for Jack Alexander Farm Insurance in Niles. She was also a dedicated MaryKay Consultant. Later she joined Coldwell Banker Real Estate as office manager and held a realtor's license. She is survived by her brother, Henry Paul (Ann) Kolloff of Niles, MI, her children John Paul Alexander of Phoenix, AZ, and Chimene Sue Alexander of Georgetown, TX, her three granddaughters Leanne Sarah Dragoo, Killenn, TX, Shelby Lynn Dragoo Mills (Joe) of Round Rock, TX, Annette Labreche, Lynnwood, WA, and great grandson Hendon Bennett Labreche, also niece Stephanie Ann Kolloff (Casey) Tampa Bay, FL.

Karen had a special bond with her pug dog, Ruby Alexander. Karen loved to travel and explore many places, but her favorite spot was her house on Dayton Lake in Galien, MI. Karen's legacy lives on through her family, friends, and the cherished memories she leaves behind. A memorial service will be held in Niles, MI at a future date to be determined.



Danny Alvin Grady Sr.
May 4, 1958 - August 16, 2024

Danny Alvin Grady Sr., age 66, of Houghton Lake, passed away on Friday, August 16, 2024. Private interment will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. A celebration of life will take place from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Sunday, August 25, 2024 at the Trillium Banquet

Center, 6415 State St. Saginaw MI, all are welcome to celebrate him. Arrangements provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, Miller Road Chapel, 8138 Miller Road, Swartz Creek. Danny was born on May 4, 1958 in Dowagiac, MI the son of Albert Grady and Barbara Buck-Wilson. He graduated from Dowagiac High School, class of 1976. Danny proudly served in the United States Army serving from 1977 until his honorable discharge in 1982. He continued his education at Texas State Technical College earning his associates degree in Biomedical Engineering. Danny worked for the Detroit Children's Hospital Covenant Hospital in Saginaw and lastly retiring from Munson Hospital in Grayling. He enjoyed watching basketball and cheering on the Michigan Wolverines. Danny was loved by many. He would never miss a moment to spend time with his kids and he was known to many as "Uncle Danny. He is survived by his children, Danny Grady Jr., Alexander Grady, Mariah (Cam) Mundy and LaToya (Rob) Harden; father, Albert Grady; and sisters, Cathy (Larry) Ash, Tracy and Vicki (Earl). Danny was preceded in death by his mother, Barbara Buck-Wilson; and brother, James Grady. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER



NILES BOYS SOCCER WINS ANNUAL VANDENBERG INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The Niles boys soccer team was on a mission Saturday.

The Vikings beat Buchanan 3-1 to win their second straight VanDenBerg Invitational championship at Niles High School. Niles blanked Cassopolis 8-0 to advance to the title game while Buchanan edged rival

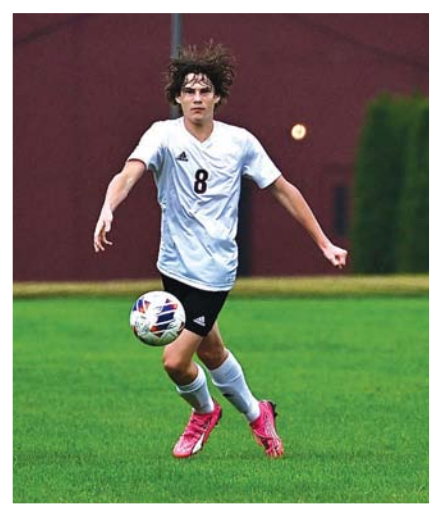
Brandywine 2-1 in a 4-3 shootout. Niles has won 12 of the last 13 VanDenBerg Invitational titles.

Niles led the championship game 2-0 at halftime with goals from Gavyn Luke and Owen Podlin. The Bucks got on the scoreboard with a Mason Frontczak goal before Podlin found the back of the net again for Niles.

Charley Cowart made three saves in net for Buchanan.

“The boys have done an outstanding job buying into the changes we have made in the first week of the season,” Ryan Hayes said. “With seven players returning (two seniors) from last year and eight freshmen, we have an excellent opportunity to build a foundation for the future. I am thrilled with how we played today, even though we fell short

See WINS, Page B3



KELLY SWEENEY | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
The VanDenBerg Invitational took place Saturday, Aug. 17.

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TENNIS

Buchanan boys tennis splits with Edwardsburg

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

BUCHANAN — The Buchanan and Edwardsburg varsity tennis teams battled their way to a 4-4 draw on Tuesday Aug. 20.

The two teams won three flights apiece in both singles and doubles to account for their four wins. Edwardsburg’s Steven Linton (7-5,2-6,6-4), Logan Summy (6-4,6-0) and Brady Leep (6-3,5-7,6-2) picked up wins in No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 singles and No. 4 doubles via Braden Farmer and Xander Souchick (6-3,2-6,6-2).

Buchanan’s Carson Shelton picked up a win in No. 4 singles (6-1, 6-0) and No. 1 doubles team Jarett Seddon and

Kaleb Lingle (6-2,6-2), No. 2 doubles team Devon Simpson and Ben Bosse (4-6,6-3,6-2) and No. 3 doubles team Bodie Bryans and Chase Mitchell (6-4,6-7 (3),6-3) earned wins in doubles.

Buchanan splits with Niles

The Bucks and Vikings finished with a 4-4 tie Monday, Aug. 19. Niles’ Elias Babler and Hunter Kater picked up wins at No. 1 and No. 3 singles and the No. 1 doubles team of Paxton Daniel and Bryan Young and No. 4 doubles team of Josh Becraft and Zane Bolyard also earned wins. For Buchanan, Marley Hines and Shelton won No. 2 and No. 4 singles and the No. 2 doubles team of Simpson and Bosse and No. 3 team of Bryans and Mitchell also picked up wins.



MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Ready for Warfield: Junior QB ready to lead Brandywine offense

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP — When Brandywine football opens its season against Hartford on Thursday, there will be a new quarterback under center in junior Kaeden Warfield.

In his first season as the

starting quarterback, Warfield will be looking to help the Bobcats rebound from a 3-6 campaign last year.

“It feels really good being out here,” Warfield said. “I’m glad that we can take the field again, especially since I didn’t get to play my full potential

See WARFIELD, Page B3



MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Junior Kaeden Warfield.

PLAINWELL SWEEPS ANNUAL VIKING STAMPEDE

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The Niles and Edwardsburg cross country teams kicked off the 2024 season at the annual Viking Stampede in Madeline Bertrand Park Friday morning.

Marshall's Reece Davis placed first overall with a time of 16:08 and Plainwell's Claire Vos took first in the girls race with 20:40.

Niles' boys team placed fourth overall with 96 points and the girls team second with 74 points. Edwardsburg's boys team finished second with 48 points and the girls team fourth with 95 points. Plainwell swept the girl's and boy's titles but Niles' Charlie Drew placed second in the girls race with a time of 21:05 and Claire DevlescHoward seventh with 22:27. Edwardsburg's Kennedy Kaylor (24:37) and Grace Leman (24:39) placed 15th and 16th respectively.

On the boys side, Edwardsburg had three runners finish in the top 10 – George Scupham (16:49) in fourth, Maguire Johnson (16:52) fifth and Reed Gates (17:50) ninth. Niles siblings Beau Kirkdoll (18:17) and Ceon Kirkdoll (18:34) placed 11th and 15th respectively.



MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Notre Dame grad named to US Paralympic team

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — The United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee announced its official roster for the 2024 U.S. Paralympic Team earlier this week, and Notre Dame graduate Sam Grewe is one of 225 athletes who will represent Team USA this summer in Paris.

Grewe is making his third appearance in the Paralympic Games

for Team USA in 2024 and will once again compete in the high jump. He made his debut with Team USA in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro games, where he earned a silver medal in the high jump T42. Grewe then captured the gold medal in the high jump T63 at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. Additionally, Grewe is a three-time world champion in the high jump T42.

The Paris 2024 Paralympic Games

kick off Wednesday, August 28 and run through Sunday, September 8. The city of Paris will welcome more than 4,400 Paralympians from around the world to compete in 22 different sports. In total, there will be 549 medal events with Paralympic competition spanning 17 different venues.

The men's high jump T63 final is slated for Tuesday, September 3 starting at 2:20 p.m.



SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

These schools won the most medals at the 2024 Olympics

COMMUNITY REPORT

The 2024 Paris Olympics have come to a close. The U.S. achieved great success, earning a total of 126 medals, while China followed with 91 medals. NCAA

schools sent more than 1,000 former, current and incoming student-athletes who represented more than 100 different countries to this year's Olympics.

Of these athletes, 272 of them combined to win 330 medals for 26 countries. Let's take a look at which schools won the most medals:

- 1. Stanford (34)**
- GOLD (12):** Torri Huske (swimming, 3), Katie Ledecy (swimming, 2), Regan Smith (swimming, 2), Tierna Davidson (soccer), Naomi Girma (soccer), Sophia Smith (soccer), Valarie Allman (discus), Vivian Kong (fencing)
- SILVER (11):** Regan Smith (swimming, 3), Torri Huske (swimming, 2), Simone Manuel (swimming, 2), Katie Ledecy (swimming), Cassidy Cook (diving), Kathryn Plummer (volleyball), Dani Jackovich (water polo)
- BRONZE (11):** Grant Fisher (running, 2), Alex Bowen (water polo), Ben Hallock (water polo), Drew Holland (water polo), Dylan Woodhead (water polo), Asher Hong (gymnastics), Brody

- Malone (gymnastics), Alanna Smith (basketball), Erik Shoji (volleyball), Katie Ledecy (swimming)
- 2. California (17)**
- GOLD (4):** Jack Alexy (swimming), Ryan Murphy (swimming), Abbey Weitzeil (swimming), Camryn Rogers (hammer throw)
- SILVER (6):** Jack Alexy (swimming), Ryan Murphy (swimming), Sydney Payne (swimming), Abbey Weitzeil (swimming), Mykolas Alekna (discus), Caileigh Filmer (rowing)
- BRONZE (7):** Luca Cupido (water polo), Johnny Hooper (water polo), Kitty Lynn Joustra (water polo), Adrian Weinberg (water polo), Rowan McKellar (rowing), Georgia Bell (running), Ryan Murphy (swimming)
- 3. Texas (16)**
- GOLD (6):** Kevin Durrant (basketball), Scottie Scheffler (golf), Tara Davis-Woodhall (jumping), Ryan Crouser (shot put), Julien Alfred (sprinting), Hubert Kos (swimming)
- SILVER (7):** Carson Foster

- (swimming), Erin Gemmell (swimming), Luke Hobson (swimming), Drew Kibler (swimming), Leo Neugebauer (decathlon), Julien Alfred (sprinting), Chiaka Ogbogu (volleyball)
- BRONZE (3):** Caspar Corbeau (swimming), Carson Foster (swimming), Luke Hobson (swimming)
- 4. Virginia (14)**
- GOLD (7):** Kate Douglass (swimming, 2), Gretchen Walsh (swimming, 2), Emma Weber (swimming), Pien Dicke (field hockey), Emily Sonnett (soccer)
- SILVER (5):** Kate Douglass (swimming, 2), Gretchen Walsh (swimming, 2), Paige Madden (swimming)
- BRONZE (2):** Paige Madden (swimming), Heidi Long (rowing)
- 5. Southern California (13)**
- GOLD (6):** Rai Benjamin (sprinting, 2), Aaron Brown (sprinting), Andre De Grasse (sprinting), Twanisha Terry (sprinting), Anni Espar (water polo)
- SILVER (2):** Anna Cockrell

- (sprinting), Tilly Kearns (water polo)
- BRONZE (5):** Yemi John (sprinting), Nicole Yeargin (sprinting), Hannes Daube (water polo), Marko Vavic (water polo), Micah Christenson (volleyball)
- T-8. Notre Dame (10)**
- GOLD (6):** Lee Kiefer (fencing, 2), Jewell Loyd (basketball), Jackie Young (basketball), Korbin Albert (soccer), Chris Guiliano (swimming)
- SILVER (1):** Chris Guiliano (swimming)
- BRONZE (3):** Nick Itkin (fencing), Eszter Muhari (fencing), Yared Nuguse (running)
- T-12. Michigan (8)**
- GOLD (1):** Charlie Swanson (swimming)
- SILVER (3):** Abby Dent (rowing), Charlie Swanson (swimming), Abby Andrews (water polo)
- BRONZE (4):** Siobhán Haughey (swimming, 2), Paul Juda (gymnastics), Frederick Richard (gymnastics)

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NILES TENNIS WINS TOURNAMENT



The Niles boys tennis team took first place in its tennis tournament Wednesday, edging Edwardsburg by two points. Team scoring: Niles 35, Edwardsburg 33, South Haven 31, Three Rivers 24, Brandywine 19, Bridgman 7.

WINS

Continued from page B1

in the championship.”
Mason Frontczak scored

Buchanan’s lone regulation goal in the semifinal with Josue Segundo scoring for Brandywine. In Niles’ win over Cassopolis, Josh McIntyre, Bradyn Maples and Podlin scored two goals apiece while Beau Kirkdoll

and Juan Campos each added one goal. “I was very happy with the way we started out,” said Niles head coach Scott Riggerbach after the Cassopolis win. “We’re moving the ball. Cassopolis

was really pushing and I liked the way we were moving the ball. We started the season thinking we want to get out early, get things going and we did exactly that. I was satisfied with the way the boys played.”

WARFIELD

Continued from page B1

last year with a broken hand.”

While quarterback is a new position for him, Warfield is eager to show he has what it takes to become a leader for the team.

“I’m looking forward to showing coach Kinzie what we can do,” he said. “I’m trying to be a leader where I lift everybody up instead of tearing them down and push them to be their best.”

“He has stepped up as a leader, which has been awesome to see,” said head coach Justin Kinzie.

Warfield was a playmaker at both running back and defensive back his first two years in a Bobcats uniform.

Last year, he tallied 337 rushing yards and two touchdowns on offense and 32 tackles and one sack on defense – while playing with a broken hand for half of the season. Warfield believes the time he spent in the backfield will help him as a quarterback.

“I think that’s helped a lot with being able to understand what I can do to help the A-backs get the ball when they need it,” he said.

The Bobcats return four starters on offense and defense this year. Carter Sobecki returns as one of the area’s top running backs and Tommy Killelea will help anchor the offensive line. Kinzie said the team’s emphasis on speed training and strength and conditioning is paying off.

“I know people say speed kills but the truth is ‘speed catches, strength kills.’ You gotta do both,” he said. “If

you look at our offensive line, we’ve got 270 pounds, 280 pounds, 260 pounds, we’ve big boys and every single one of them has a max speed of 16-17 miles an hour. They’re not just big, they’re fast, which is nice. We’re really excited about it.”

Warfield has his eyes set on leading the Bobcats back to the playoffs and being the best version of himself as a player.

“I want to make the playoffs but personally I want to do the best I can and try to be a perfectionist.”

The Bobcats face Hartford at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29 before hosting Watervliet for their home opener at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5.

“I’m really excited,” he said. “I think we have a good team and I think we’re all ready to go play and hit somebody in a different color jersey.”

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Epic Virtual Simulcast Real-time Online Toy Auction, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. Featuring amazing toys from multiple generations. Visit EpicAuctions.com for full catalog, photos, to bid and more. Call 517-927-5028 for information.

Large Blue Star Online Equipment Auction, 9-24-24, from 8-4 p.m. Dozers, loaders, trailers, trucks, tools, generators, sky-jack lifts, commercial pumps and more! CrydermanAuctions.com to view catalog, other auctions. Call 586-784-8890.

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Public Notices

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The August 17, 2024, Bertrand Charter Township Board Special Meeting draft minutes have been posted at the Bertrand Charter Township Hall, 3835 Buffalo Road, Buchanan, MI 49107 and on the township website (bertrandtwpmi.gov). Respectfully, Polly White, Clerk Bertrand Charter Township

Niles Daily Star:
Aug. 24, 2024
MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

AUCTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 @ 10:00
STORE MORE STORAGE INC
29813 US 12
NILES, MI 49120

UNIT #31 & #137
ASHLEY & STEVE POFF

UNIT #47
SHAWN HARRISON

UNIT #56
SCOTT RICHARDS

UNIT #82
MICHELLE SMITH

UNITS #100, #104, #136
DAVE KRAMER

UNIT #148
ASHLEY WILDS

Niles Daily Star:
Aug. 17 and 24, 2024
STORAGE AUCTION

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE
OF AVAILABILITY
OF A FINAL SHORT FORM
ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR PROPOSED
IMPROVEMENTS AT THE
JERRY TYLER MEMORIAL
AIRPORT, NILES, MICHIGAN

The Jerry Tyler Memorial Airport (Airport) has completed final environmental documentation for proposed Airport improvements. The Airport proposes the acquisition of aviation easements and obstruction clearing in the Runway 33 approach. The proj-

Public Notices

ect will enhance safety and utility of the Airport by eliminating nearby obstruction hazards to aviation activity. Tree clearing is needed to remove the obstructions identified to the FAR Part 77 approach surface and the state of Michigan licensing approach surface. The proposed project at the Airport includes the following components:

- Obtain aviation easements to remove the trees that are obstructions to the approach surface of Runway 33
- Clearing obstructions (mostly trees) which penetrate the Runway 33 FAR Part 77 Surface

All interested persons are hereby notified of the availability of a Final Short Form Environmental Assessment (Short Form EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). These documents evaluated the potential impacts of the proposed improvements as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Approval of the FONSI by the Michigan Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics means that the project can now proceed to final design and construction.

A hardcopy of the Short Form EA and FONSI is available for review during normal business hours at City Hall and an electronic version is also available anytime online until September 27, 2024. Documents can be found at the following locations:

- Hardcopy is available at:
Niles City Hall
333 N. Second Street
Niles, MI 49120
- Electronic version is available at: <https://www.nilesmi.org/>

Direct written or email questions to:
William Ballard, AICP
Mead & Hunt, Inc.
2605 Port Lansing Road
Lansing, MI 48906
william.ballard@meadhunt.com

Niles Daily Star:
Aug. 24, 2024
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Public Notices

Economy Storage, 2206 Yankee Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday August 31, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Unit#	Name
16	Tyson Fuller
52/53	Robert Valente
60	Purnell Martin
67	Jerom Jankowiak
93	Dakota Hettinger
95	Philip Sherwood
108	Terry Riege
114	Tellie Doan
116	Melissa Kaeding
119	Kyle Tracey
127/633	Chris Norris
145/468	Michael Merritt
148	Gloster Johnson
164	Brady Hattenback
166	Crystal Tripp
184/66	Mary Anderson
191	Alan Smith
217	James Russell
228/367	Shawnette Booker
246	Missi Stanfill
268	Dan Hof
273	Tony Pompey

Public Notices

284 Kathleen Peterson
289 Janay Goins
321 James Browning
342 Terrence Moss
346 DaMonica Williams
347 Michelle Myers
356 Chase Molica
379 Bobbie Helms
389 Parnell Jenkins
410/534 Rebecca Coleman
451 Jean Fitch
486 Leigh Anne Norris
501 Kyle Visel-Kelly
506 Donna Haynes
514 Christopher Kohut
519 Dan Grimm
541 Nicole Hurt
545 Candy Whitmire
556 Matt Mazingo
605 Michael Lewark
613 Nicola Jones
628/499 Altavious Stone
657 Andrew Jones
661 Rodney Prescott
671 James Roman

Niles U-Stor-It, 1314 E. Main Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday August 31, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

29 Michelle Hafley
30 Curtis Sheldon
49 Miranda Wendzel
57 Nathan Haynes
59/38 Roxie Kiefer

J & J Storage, 2220 S. 13th Street and 2627 S. 11th Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday August 31, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

33 Tammera Carbon
60 Samantha Williams
60 Blake King
97 Mike Nidiffer
200A Rachael Lonsbury
128 Cory Tucker
130 Chris Miller
161/169 Jerol Williams Jr.
168 Destiny Martin
228 James Diss
238/466 Tamara Holmes
263 Rebecca Nichols
301 Robert Davis
327/69 Linda Morris
343 April Christy
404/499 Tina Hollis
410/333 James Schilling Jr.
426 James Roman
498 Christy Waggoner
511

Niles Daily Star:
Aug. 17 and 24, 2024
STORAGE AUCTION

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2. **Free standard installation** applies to new Lease subscribers only. Not valid with Purchase option. Limited-time offer. Restrictions may apply.
3. Per the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th FCC Measuring Broadband American Reports.* Go to: <https://www.hughes.com/who-we-are/resources/press-releases/>
- Minimum term required. Monthly service and early termination fees apply. Visit legal.HughesNet.com for details.
- HughesNet is a registered trademark of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an EchoStar Company.

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